

Happenings

Richard S. McGinnis

NASA Langley Research Center

9 September 1998

Topics

- Changes
- IG report
- Federation

GSFC Changes

- ESDIS PM Rick Obenschaine replaced by Dolly Perkins
- Deputy ESDIS PM John Dalton moved
- Code 170 being split
 - One part will support HQ (level 2)
 - Other part will do program coordination for GSFC

Science Direction Changes

- Chem to be the last “EOS” mission
- Three types of future work (EOS follow-on)
 - “Sustained” measurements (not necessarily continuous)
 - Process studies
 - Instrument development
- Future missions to be competitively chosen end-to-end
 - PI-led
 - ESSP-like

Other Happenings

- NASA negotiating with NOAA (and USGS) to move ESE data to them after a few years (3-5) rather than after mission completion
- Group being established to determine how to transition to “new” data system

New DIS Strategy Team

- Provide a general direction, framework, and strategy to accomplish the ESE processing, near-term archive, and distribution beyond the system currently under development. There are two distinct and separate tasks:
 - 1) Validate, substantiate, and confirm as necessary the EOSDIS Transition Plan
 - 2) Provide a Long-Term Plan
- These tasks should be coordinated, and, to the maximum extent possible, provide a smooth transition from current to future system.

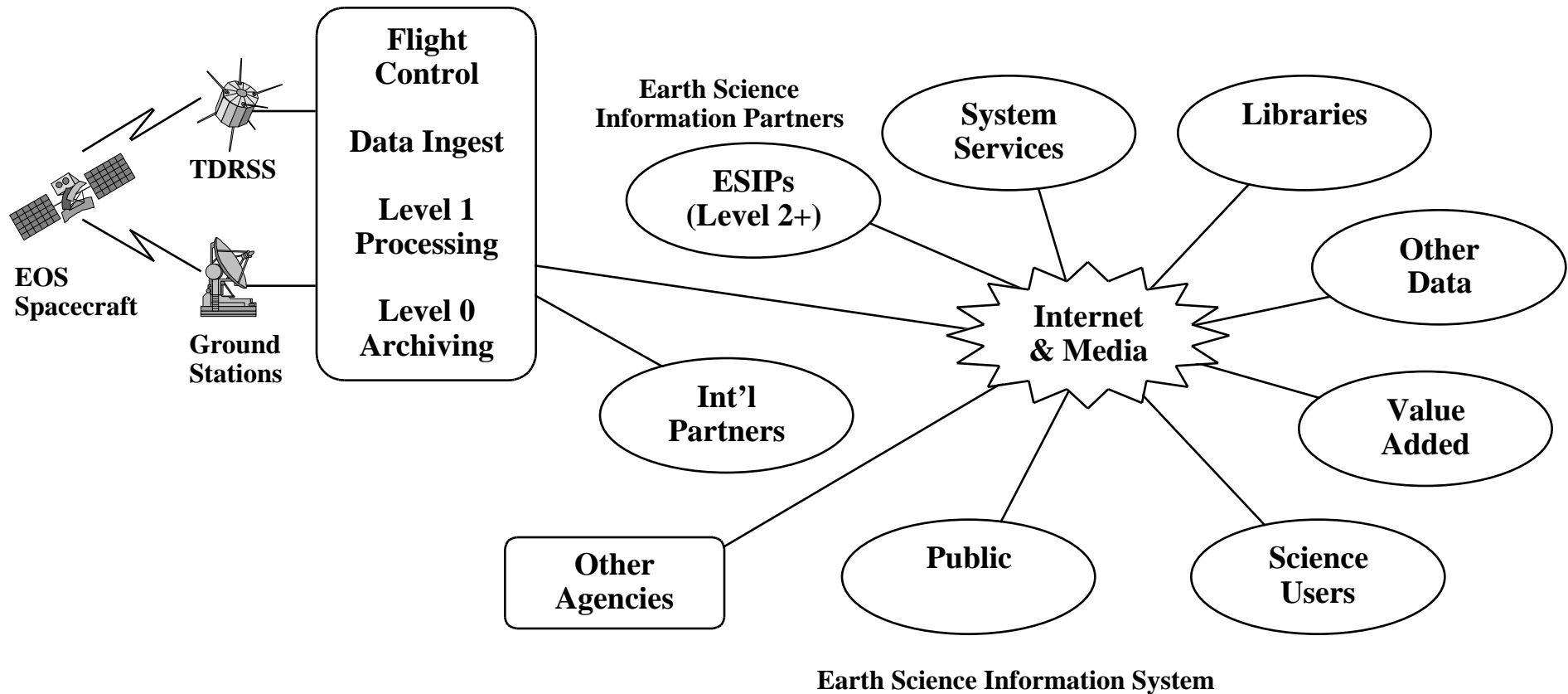
“Dissemination of Earth Science Program Data and Information”

- IG recommended:
 - Establish and fund formal outreach
 - More diverse UWG representation
 - Implement User Model Conference recommendations
- NASA HQ responded
 - Agree—created YO
 - Agree-will review UWGs’ composition
 - Agree—conference report on web
<http://rsrunt.geog.ucsb.edu/eosdis.html>

DAAC Involvement with YO

- Code YO creating Strategic and Implementation Plans
 - DAAC participated in meeting to review strategic plan and draft implementation plan
 - DAAC invited to participate in writing the outreach section on 15 September
- Plans due by 30 September

Federation Background



- National Research Council study of EOS recommends that EOSDIS be changed to Earth Science Information System, composed of a self-governing federation of competitively chosen partners (ESIPs)
- NASA has a plan to implement the NRC recommendation

What's an ESIP?

- ESIP—Earth Science Information Partner; the data center described by the NRC
- NASA defined 3 types of ESIPs
 - Type 1—ESIP which provides routinely produced products (i.e. emphasis on reliability)
 - Type 2—ESIP which provides developmental products (i.e. emphasis on flexibility)
 - Type 3—ESIPs outside of NASA's part of Global Change Research Program (i.e. other agencies or commercial)

Federation

- NRC held Federation workshop
- At first Federation meeting, ESIP 2&3 members voted DAACs in (but no money provided)
- Full Federation meeting held at AGU
- Elections for federation committees just finishing and committees being formed
- Next meeting scheduled for December

NRC Workshop

- Federation models
 - Libraries (Assoc. of Research Libraries, Harvard)
 - International organizations (NATO)
 - Industry (Chevron)
 - Political (U.S. Constitution)
 - Academic (UCAR)
- Four constituencies
 - Data producers
 - Global change scientists
 - Knowledge brokers (e.g., education)
 - For-profit business

NRC Workshop “Lessons” (1 of 2)

- Federation must be community driven with empowerment at individual member level. Federation must be responsive to broad ESE community.
- By and large, governance should be “bottoms up”; centralized management should be “light touch”.
- Federation must be flexible.

NRC Workshop “Lessons” (2 of 2)

- Success depends on developing common goals (usually a prerequisite for forming a federation).
- Success must be defined early and be quantifiable.
- Equal status among members helps reduce tensions.
- ESE constituents have different expectations which must be accommodated.

Federation Organization

Committee of the Whole (CW)
(each ESIP member votes)

Executive Committee
(CW Chair and Vice Chair + 1 from each ESIP type)

Appropriation Sub-committee

By-laws and Rules Sub-committee

Intellectual Property WG

Interoperability WG

Success & metrics WG

details at: <http://saturn.gsfc.nasa.gov/May98/Meeting/minutes.html>

Summary

- The program is going through vigorous change
- The DAAC is participating in as many groups involved in change as possible

Back-up Charts

Work Plan

- Potential budget reduction

Processing

- LATIS has been proposed and accepted for use for CERES/AM processing
- LATIS has been proposed for use on CERES/PM
 - ESDIS has responded with a cost profile about half what is needed
 - Arguing with ESDIS
- MISR holding out for ECS
- ECS continues to slip
 - Functionality is moved to later releases
 - Deliveries are late
- Talking to TES about LATIS for their use (Chem)

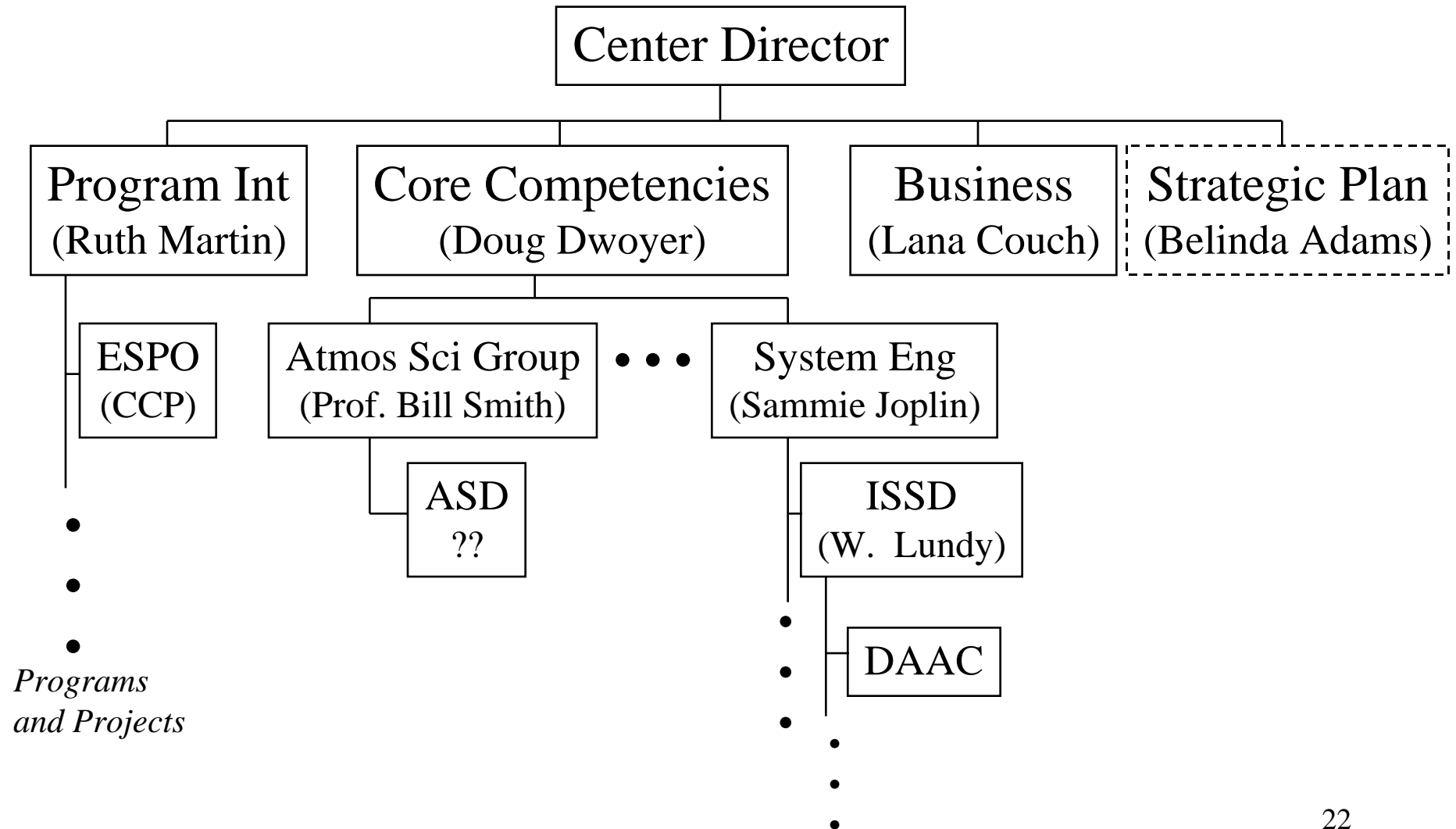
Other DAAC Activity

- Code YO creating Strategic and Implementation Plans
 - DAAC participated in meeting to review strategic plan and draft implementation plan
 - DAAC invited to participate in writing the outreach section on 15 September
- DAAC participating in CEOS working group meetings
- Involved in multiple proposals
 - RESAC
 - ESSP
 - ESIP
- Looking to team on other proposals

Federation Site

- NASA ESIP program is a prototype implementation of the National Research Council recommendation that, in the new Earth Science Information System (ESIS), "the responsibility for product generation and publication and for user services should be transferred to a federation of partners selected through a competitive process open to all."
- NASA established this site to further the objectives of the Earth Science Information System. We intend to employ communication and collaboration technologies to:
 - a) Facilitate collaboration among ESIPs by fostering communication among the ESIPs and between ESIP teams, NASA as well as investigators involved in related work within and outside NASA, and
 - b) Promote federation interaction with organizations developing interoperability specifications, such as the Open GIS Consortium, and W3C; with digital library technology R&D efforts, such as the NSF/ARPA/NASA joint initiative, standards bodies such as FGDC, etc. In addition, we will support the federation governance structure as it evolves.

New Langley Organization



IG Report

- IG recommended:
 - More outreach
 - More diverse UWG representation
- NASA responded:
 - Agree– created YO

View from the top (HQ)

- NASA intends to employ more competition
- Will not fund many (if any) unsolicited proposals
- Moving toward end-to-end missions (PI led)

What's an ESIP?

- ESIP—Earth Science Information Partner; the data center described by the NRC
- NASA defined 3 types of ESIPs
 - Type 1—ESIP which provides routinely produced products (i.e. emphasis on reliability)
 - Type 2—ESIP which provides developmental products (i.e. emphasis on flexibility)
 - Type 3—ESIPs outside of NASA's part of Global Change Research Program (i.e. other agencies or commercial)

The Federation of EOSDIS

- Overall Phased Approach
 - Federate and recertify existing DAACS to form “Baseline” federation for TRMM, AM-1, and PM-1
 - Compete new work and form “Working Prototype” federation (science, technology, socio-economic)
 - CAN released 3 September, 1997
 - Proposals due 3 November, 1997
 - Winners announced December, 1997
 - Compete all work for CHEM-1 and beyond
- ESDIS has developed an “adaptive approach” for data processing

Adaptive Approach

NRC Federation Workshop

- Held in DC 23-25 February
- Purpose was to discuss what constitutes a Federation, how they operate, and what NASA's role should be
- ESIP winners required to attend
- DAACs invited by NRC (170 opposed)
- Presentations covered a variety of different “federations”
 - US government (historical)
 - NATO
 - Chevron R&D approach
- Report to come out in June (maybe)

What I Saw and Heard

- It's unclear what NASA is trying to achieve—is the federation an experiment or a prototype
- Federations have some common attributes
 - Shared problem (or objective)
 - Membership is voluntary
 - Membership duration is up to each member
 - Some cost to be a member
 - Membership brings more advantage than individual cost
- Some federations have paid, permanent management; some don't
- ESIP type 2 winners are pro federation
- ESIP type 3 winners aren't for it
- Federation members seem to want NASA's involvement to be \$\$\$
- ESIP winners want DAACs involved

What's Coming

- NASA sponsored meeting 5-7 April
- DAACs (grudgingly) invited
- Intent is to refine how federation will operate

TO DO

- Check on IG report and summarize
- Look up federation organization and get update from Collins
- Look for NRC federation workshop report
- Talk to Frenzer about work plan and charts
- Find Morrell's charts on future science